

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 083970 TOSEC 030166
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES/JKB;SHOP:PAW
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES
S/P:PKREISBERG
NEA/AFN:JBISHOP
S/S-O:TMARTIN
AF:WLEWIS

-----071481 010314Z /17

O 010230Z APR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 083970 TOSEC 030166

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MO, AG, SS,

SUBJECT: ALGERIANS SUGGEST MEDIATION OF SAHARA DISPUTE

1. YOU WILL HAVE NOTED ITEM IN MIDEAST SUMMARY OF TODAY THAT ALGERIANS HAVE ASKED NIGERIANS TO RAISE WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE WITH THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS VISIT. THIS MAY BE RELATED TO RECENT DISCUSSION AMBASSADOR HAYNES HAD IN ALGIERS WITH SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL WHO SUGGESTED THAT U.S. MIGHT PASS ON TO KING HASSAN ALGERIA'S WILLINGNESS TO MEET SECRETLY WITH MOROCCANS, MAURITANIANS AND POLISARIO TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO SAHARA DISPUTE.

2. IMPLICATION WAS THAT USG MIGHT SOMEHOW PLAY INTER-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 083970 TOSEC 030166

MEDIARY ROLE TO ORGANIZE SUCH A MEETING. ALGERIAN CAVEAT WAS THAT THEY HAVE NOT AS YET OBTAINED POLISARIO APPROVAL FOR SUCH AN INITIATIVE BUT WERE IN PROCESS OF DISCUSSING ISSUE WITH POLISARIO.

3. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON ADVISES STRONGLY AGAINST U.S. ASSUMING ROLE OF INTERMEDIARY. HE BELIEVES ALGERIAN

SUGGESTION IS A PLOY INTENDED TO SOW FURTHER SEEDS OF DOUBT IN MOROCCAN MINDS ABOUT U.S. POSITION. HE CITES ALGERIAN INSISTENCE ON PARTICIPATION OF POLISARIO, A

PRE-CONDITION HE FEELS WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MOROCCANS, AS EVIDENCE THE ALGERIANS ARE NOT SERIOUS.

4. UNTIL WE HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION DEPARTMENT NOT PREPARED DISMISS ENTIRELY POSSIBILITY THAT ALGERIANS ACTUALLY MAY BE INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATIONS. RESULTS OF FRENCH ELECTIONS SUGGEST PARIS WILL CONTINUE SUPPORT MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA, RATHER THAN PULL RUG OUT FROM UNDER THEM, AS ALGERIANS HOPED WOULD BE CONSEQUENCE OF VICTORY BY FRENCH LEFT. AT SAME TIME, DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES MOROCCAN REACTION TO ANY APPEARANCE OF U.S. PRESSURE TO NEGOTIATE ON PRESENT ALGERIAN TERMS COULD BE EXTREMELY NEGATIVE, PARTICULARLY AS IT WOULD COME ON HEELS OF OUR REFUSAL TO ALLOW MOROCCANS TO USE OUR ARMS IN SAHARA.

5. SHOULD SUBJECT BE RAISED IN LAGOS, WE WOULD RECOMMEND FOLLOWING POSITION:

-- WE HAVE ALWAYS SUPPORTED A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE SAHARA DISPUTE. TO THAT END, WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED UNGA ACTION REFERRING ISSUE TO OAU AS COMPETENT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 083970 TOSEC 030166

REGIONAL PARTY.

-- WE ARE, THEREFORE, DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT PROSPECTS SEEM TO BE FADING FOR EARLY OAU MEETING TO DISCUSS SAHARA ISSUE.

-- WE WOULD APPRECIATE NIGERIAN EVALUATION OF WHETHER OAU MEETING COULD BE HELD SOON AND WOULD URGE NIGERIANS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO BRING THIS ABOUT.

-- (IF NIGERIANS SAY ALGERIANS WANT U.S. TO BE INTER-MEDIARY) THANK YOU FOR CONVEYING THIS MESSAGE. WE CERTAINLY WILL STUDY IT CAREFULLY. COOPER

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 083970
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:DSUMMERS

-----089488 032232Z /66

O 032045Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 083970

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOL RPT STATE 083970 TOSEC 30166 SENT ACTION USDEL SECRETARY
INFO ALGIERS & RABAT DTD 01 APR 78

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 083970 TOSEC 030166

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MO, AG, SS,

SUBJECT: ALGERIANS SUGGEST MEDIATION OF SAHARA DISPUTE

1. YOU WILL HAVE NOTED ITEM IN MIDEAST SUMMARY OF TODAY
THAT ALGERIANS HAVE ASKED NIGERIANS TO RAISE WESTERN
SAHARA ISSUE WITH THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS VISIT. THIS
MAY BE RELATED TO RECENT DISCUSSION AMBASSADOR HAYNES HAD
IN ALGIERS WITH SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL WHO SUGGESTED THAT
U.S. MIGHT PASS ON TO KING HASSAN ALGERIA'S WILLINGNESS
TO MEET SECRETLY WITH MOROCCANS, MAURITANIANS AND POLISARIO
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 083970

TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO SAHARA DISPUTE.

2. IMPLICATION WAS THAT USG MIGHT SOMEHOW PLAY INTERA-
MEDIARY ROLE TO ORGANIZE SUCH A MEETING. ALGERIAN CAVEAT
WAS THAT THEY HAVE NOT AS YET OBTAINED POLISARIO APPROVAL
FOR SUCH AN INITIATIVE BUT WERE IN PROCESS OF DISCUSSING
ISSUE WITH POLISARIO.

3. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON ADVISES STRONGLY AGAINST U.S. ASSUMING ROLE OF INTERMEDIARY. HE BELIEVES ALGERIAN SUGGESTION IS A PLOY INTENDED TO SOW FURTHER SEEDS OF DOUBT IN MOROCCAN MINDS ABOUT U.S. POSITION. HE CITES ALGERIAN INSISTENCE ON PARTICIPATION OF POLISARIO, A PRE-CONDITION HE FEELS WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MOROCCANS, AS EVIDENCE THE ALGERIANS ARE NOT SERIOUS.

4. UNTIL WE HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION DEPARTMENT NOT PREPARED DISMISS ENTIRELY POSSIBILITY THAT ALGERIANS ACTUALLY MAY BE INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATIONS. RESULTS OF FRENCH ELECTIONS SUGGEST PARIS WILL CONTINUE SUPPORT MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA, RATHER THAN PULL RUG OUT FROM UNDER THEM, AS ALGERIANS HOPED WOULD BE CONSEQUENCE OF VICTORY BY FRENCH LEFT. AT SAME TIME, DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES MOROCCAN REACTION TO ANY APPEARANCE OF U.S. PRESSURE TO NEGOTIATE ON PRESENT ALGERIAN TERMS COULD BE EXTREMELY NEGATIVE, PARTICULARLY AS IT WOULD COME ON HEELS OF OUR REFUSAL TO ALLOW MOROCCANS TO USE OUR ARMS IN SAHARA.

5. SHOULD SUBJECT BE RAISED IN LAGOS, WE WOULD RECOMMEND FOLLOWING POSITION:

--WE HAVE ALWAYS SUPPORTED A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 083970

SAHARA DISPUTE. TO THAT END, WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED UNGA ACTION REFERRING ISSUE TO OAU AS COMPETENT REGIONAL PARTY.

--WE ARE THEREFORE, DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT PROSPECTS SEEM TO BE FADING FOR EARLY OAU MEETING TO DISCUSS SAHARA ISSUE.

--WE WOULD APPRECIATE NIGERIAN EVALUATION OF WHETHER OAU MEETING COULD BE HELD SOON AND WOULD URGE NIGERIANS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO BRING THIS ABOUT.

--(IF NIGERIANS SAY ALGERIANS WANT U.S. TO BE INTER-MEDIARY) THANK YOU FOR CONVEYING THIS MESSAGE. WE CERTAINLY WILL STUDY IT CAREFULLY. COPER UNQUOTE
CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, TOSEC, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE083970
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NAVELIOTES/JKB;SHOP:PAW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780141-0551
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197804103/aaaadjoz.tel
Line Count: 217
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 166535a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2825294
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALGERIANS SUGGEST MEDIATION OF SAHARA DISPUTE
TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, MO, AG, SS, WI, US
To: SECRETARY ALGIERS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/166535a6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014